

# OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

*Edited by*

**FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.**

Secretary to the Commission

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## **DIRECTION 55**

Insertion in the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*  
of an entry relating to the generic name *Grus* Brisson,  
1760 (Class Aves) (correction of an error in the Ruling  
given in *Opinion* 103)

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# INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

## COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN DIRECTION 55

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Dr. Alden H. MILLER (*Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, California, U.S.A.*) (29th October 1954)

Doc. Dr. Ferdinand PRANTL (*Národní Museum v Praze, Prague, Czechoslovakia*) (30th October 1954)

Professor Dr. Wilhelm KÜHNELT (*Zoologisches Institut der Universität, Vienna, Austria*) (6th November 1954)

Professor F. S. BODENHEIMER (*The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel*) (11th November 1954)

Professor Ernst MAYR (*Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*) (4th December 1954)

Professor Enrico TORTONESE (*Museo di Storia Naturale, "G. Doria," Genova, Italy*) (16th December 1954)

## DIRECTION 55

INSERTION IN THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY" OF AN ENTRY RELATING TO THE GENERIC NAME "GRUS" BRISSON, 1760 (CLASS AVES) (CORRECTION OF AN ERROR IN THE RULING GIVEN IN "OPINION" 103)

**RULING :—**(1) The entry relating to the generic name *Grus* Pallas, 1767 [sic], made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 103 is hereby deleted as being incorrect and the following revised entry bearing the same Name Number (Name No. 474) is hereby made in its place :—

*Grus* Brisson, 1760 (gender : feminine) (type species, by absolute tautonymy : *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758)

(2) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 1062 :—*grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Ardea grus* (specific name of type species of *Grus* Brisson, 1760).

(3) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 764 :—*Grus* Pallas, 1766 (a junior homonym of *Grus* Brisson, 1760).

(4) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 364 :—*psophia* Pallas, 1767, as published in the combination *Grus psophia* (a junior objective synonym of *crepitans* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Psophia crepitans*).

## I. THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PRESENT “ DIRECTION ”

On 19th December 1955, Mr. Francis Hemming, as Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, communicated to twenty ornithologists in various countries a note regarding certain errors which had been detected in the Ruling in regard to the generic name *Grus* Pallas, 1767 [sic] (Class Aves) given in *Opinion* 103. In the letter covering this communication Mr. Hemming invited the specialists concerned to advise the Commission as to which of two alternative courses of action they would advise it to take for the purpose of regularising the position as regards the foregoing generic name. The alternatives so submitted, which were set out in paragraph 8 of the paper distributed by Mr. Hemming, were as follows :—

8. From the particulars given above there are, it will be seen, two ways by which to secure that the nominal species *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, shall be the type species of the genus *Grus*, though under neither of these could that name be attributed to Pallas, 1767, the attribution given in *Opinion* 103. The possible alternatives are :—

- (a) to apply the ordinary provisions of the *Règles* and in consequence to accept the name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, with *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species by absolute tautonymy ;
- (b) to use the Plenary Powers (i) to suppress the name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, and (ii) to designate *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, to be type species of *Grus* Pallas, 1766, thus retaining the attribution of this name to Pallas, the author cited in *Opinion* 103, though with a different date and with a reference to a different work.

**2. Registration of the present application :** At the time of the discovery by Mr. Hemming of the defects in the ruling relating to the generic name *Grus* Pallas, 1767 [sic] given in *Opinion* 103 the question of the action to be taken to remedy the errors so uncovered was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 558.

**3. Summary of the replies received from specialists to the questionnaire issued in December 1955 :** Replies were received from fourteen (14) of the twenty-four (24) specialists to whom the questionnaire referred to in paragraph 1 above was issued in December 1955. Of the specialists who furnished statements of



their views eleven (11) expressed themselves as being in favour of Alternative "A" (adoption of the generic name *Grus* as from Brisson, 1760, the author by whom it had been first published) and three (3) as being in favour of Alternative "B" (use of the Plenary Powers to retain as from 1766 the authorship of the name *Grus* for Pallas, the author to whom it had been credited in *Opinion* 103). Ten (10) of the specialists consulted did not reply to the questionnaire issued.

**4. Replies from the eleven specialists who favoured the acceptance of the generic name "Grus" as from Brisson, 1760 (Alternative "A") :** The replies received from the eleven specialists who favoured the acceptance of the generic name *Grus* as from Brisson, 1760 (Alternative "A") were as follows :—

**(1) Richard Meinertzhagen (London) (21st December 1955)**

I prefer your course "A" accepting the name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, with *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species.

**(2) W. B. Alexander (Swanage, England : formerly of the Edward Grey Institute of Field Ornithology, Oxford, England) (21st December 1955)**

My opinion is that the best procedure would be to accept the name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, with *Ardea grus* Linnaeus as type.

**(3) Noël Mayaud (Faculté des Sciences de Paris) (22nd December 1955)**

Les noms de genre de Brisson étant valides, *Grus* Brisson, 1760, préoccupe *Grus* Pallas, 1766.

En conséquence le nom générique des grues doit être *Grus* Brisson, 1760. Type pas tautonymie absolue *Ardea grus* Linné, 1758, d'après "La Grue" Brisson et la première référence donnée par Brisson : *Grus* linné Syst. Nat. ed. 10. gen. 76. sp. 4 et la planche coloriée n° 199 de Martinet (Atlas des planches coloriées de Brisson).

C'est donc l'alternative "A" qui doit être adoptée. Elle a l'avantage (a) de respecter strictement la loi de priorité et (b) de respecter le logique car *Grus* Brisson désigne sans conteste possible les Grues (Cranes) *sensu stricto*, tandis que *Grus* Pallas s'applique à un oiseau qui ne fait pas partie de ce genre. Il faudrait donc outrepasser l'idée de Pallas pour appliquer *Grus* aux Grues (Cranes) *sensu stricto* chose

bien inutile quand on a le genre *Grus* Brisson, antérieur, qui s'applique parfaitement bien.

(4) **Jean Delacour** (*Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California*) (27th December 1955)

The main point is to preserve the generic name *Grus* and it seems to me that the first proposition (accepting the name *Grus* Brisson, 1760) is the simplest. However, I would agree to suppress *Grus* Brisson and to support *Grus* Pallas, 1766, if it was the opinion of the majority.

(5) **Helmuth Wagner** (*Übersee-Museum, Bremen, Germany*) (31st December 1955)

Having considered the question with other members of our staff we conclude that the point would be whether the regulation adopted in *Opinion* 103 is to be regarded as a definite settling of the status of the generic name *Grus* or not. Since we realize from your letter that *Opinions* are liable to corrections if evidence is given of their being apparently based on incomplete information we would tend to prefer a way similar to that you mention under "A" in your note. If the names of Brisson are to be regarded as available there seems to be no reason to discuss further the status of *Grus* Pallas as relevant to the establishing of that genus. The exact date of *Grus* Pallas and its type species has, however, to be determined too. The two alternatives seem to be :—

(a) to adopt *Grus* Pallas, 1766, in correction of *Grus* Pallas, 1767, and to suppress *Grus* Brisson, 1760, which name has the unquestionable rank of priority, or

(b) to consider *Grus* as being established by Brisson in 1760 in accordance with both the Law of Priority and the decision of 1950 as to the status of Brisson's names, and to place *Grus* Pallas into synonymy, while correcting the date of that name as necessary.

As (a) would involve the suppression of a name otherwise valid but (b) would account for the Law of Priority and do no harm but placing *Grus* Pallas into synonymy, we would, other things being equal, suggest following the course as outlined by you under "A" provided that the date of *Grus* Pallas is corrected which would be necessary for either way to be adopted, i.e. a course as outlined above under (b).

(6) **G. C. A. Junge** (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden*) (2nd January 1956)

I am of the opinion that alternative "A" is the most logical and correct one. Thus I vote : to apply the ordinary provisions of the

*Règles* and in consequence to accept the name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, with *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species by absolute tautonymy.

(7) **Finn Salomonsen** (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, København*) (6th January 1956)

I am in agreement with the first alternative, i.e. to accept *Grus* Brisson, 1760, with *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species by absolute tautonymy. This solution has the following advantages :—

(a) the ordinary provisions of the *Règles* can be applied ;

(b) Brisson's *Grus* has priority over Pallas's *Grus* ;

(c) Brisson's *Grus* is undoubtedly a designation for the Cranes, while Pallas's *Grus* contained other, non-related birds, and the acceptance of his name might give rise to unnecessary discussions and conflicts.

(8) **K. H. Voous** (*Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam*) (6th January 1956)

I am much in favour of the solution mentioned by you under "A", that is, to apply the ordinary provisions of the *Règles* and in consequence to accept the name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, with *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species by absolute tautonymy.

Whatever may happen I should have to protest severely if the generic name *Grus*, which has been in constant use for so long a period, should be proposed to be rejected and replaced by another genus name.

(9) **J. Steinbacher** (*Senckenbergische Naturforschende Gesellschaft, Frankfurt a.M., Germany*) (9th January 1956)

I wish to inform you that I would like to give my consent to the first alternative, i.e. to apply the ordinary provisions of the *Règles* and in consequence to accept the name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, with *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species by absolute tautonymy.

(10) **B. Rensch** (*Zoologisches Institut der Westfälischen Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, Germany*) (10th January 1956)

Meines Erachtens ist eine eindeutige Entscheidung in diesem Falle ohnehin nicht möglich, da man für beide Entscheidungen gute Gründe angeben kann. Im Ganzen halte ich es aber doch für zutreffend die

unter 8 (a) getroffene Entscheidung zu bevorzugen, d.h. die Namen *Grus* Brisson, 1760, anzunehmen mit *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, als typische Art.

- (11) **Ernst Mayr** (*Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*) (26th January 1956)

For several reasons I would prefer to accept the name *Grus* of Brisson, 1760, which is not only what had been done by ornithologists for many years (until someone thought one had to ignore the Brisson names), but it also eliminates a number of difficulties associated with the name *Grus* Pallas, 1766. Such an acceptance of the Brisson name would be distinctly in line with the recent trend to revert to the traditional acceptance of Brissonian generic names. It seems to me, therefore, that there are four independent reasons for entering Brisson in the *Official List* as the author of *Grus* :—(1) priority, (2) the traditional acceptance of Brisson as the author during most of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, (3) the avoidance of the difficulties associated with *Grus* Pallas, and (4) the recent trend to restore Brissonian names to their formerly held rank.

**5. Replies from the three specialists who favoured the use by the International Commission of its Plenary Powers to secure that the generic name “*Grus*” should rank from Pallas, 1766 (Alternative “B”):** The replies received from the three specialists who favoured the use by the International Commission of its Plenary Powers for the purpose of securing that the generic name *Grus* should rank from Pallas, 1766, instead of from Brisson, 1760 (Alternative “B” were as follows :—

- (1) **G. Niethammer** (*Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn, Germany*) (22nd December 1955)

I agree with your second alternative “B”, i.e. *Grus* Pallas, 1766.

- (2) **Alden H. Miller** (*Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, California*) (28th December 1955)

I would favor your alternative “B”. It seems to me this procedure would cause the least change in current usage and not re-open old questions concerning Brisson. The use of *Grus* of Pallas is in line with very thoroughly established handbooks like the British handbook, AOU and Peters.



(3) **G. Diesselhorst** (*Zoologische Sammlung des Bayerischen Staates, München, Germany*) (5th February 1956)

Having studied the problem in question I should think it least troublesome for the stability of nomenclature to use the Plenary Powers for suppressing the name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, and to designate *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, to be the type species of *Grus* Pallas, 1766, as in Alternative "B" of your sheet.

**6. Submission to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in April 1956 of proposals for rectifying the defects in the Ruling relating to the generic name "Grus" Pallas, 1767 [sic] given in "Opinion" 103 :** On 25th April 1956, Mr. Hemming submitted to the International Commission a paper in which, after drawing attention to the defects in the Ruling relating to the generic name *Grus* Pallas, 1767 [sic] given in *Opinion* 103 and giving particulars of the views expressed by the specialists who had been consulted in this matter (paragraph 3 above), he set out two alternative courses of action which the Commission, if it so desired, might take for the purpose of regularising the entry regarding the foregoing name made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in the *Opinion* referred to above. The alternatives so set out corresponded with those which Mr. Hemming had previously placed before the specialists whom he had consulted in this case, i.e. those quoted in the first paragraph of the present *Direction*. The paper submitted to the Commission by Mr. Hemming was as follows :—

**Proposed correction of an erroneous entry on the "Official List of Generic Names in Zoology" in regard to the generic name "Grus" (Class Aves) made by the Ruling given in "Opinion" 103**

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(*Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*)

Among the *Opinions* rendered by the International Commission in the pre-Lisbon (1935) period in which errors have been detected in course of the preparation of the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* for publication in book form is *Opinion* 103 in which the generic name *Grus* Pallas, 1767, was placed on the above *List* with *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758 (a non-included species) as type species.

The purpose of the present paper is to lay the relevant facts before the Commission and to seek a decision on the action to be taken to provide a valid entry on the *Official List* in regard to the foregoing name.

2. The following are the relevant facts in the present case :—

- (1) The generic name *Grus* was first published by Brisson in 1860 (*Ornithologia* 5 : 374—391). Brisson, whose *Ornithologia* has been validated by the Commission under its Plenary Powers by the Ruling given in *Direction* 16 (1955, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 1(C) : 81—88), used the name *Grus* for a subgenus of the genus *Ciconia*. He placed a number of species in *Grus*, one of these being *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 141). Brisson did not designate or indicate a type species for *Grus* under Rules (a), (b) or (c) in Article 30 and in consequence under Rule (d) in that Article *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, is the type species of *Grus* Brisson, 1760, by absolute tautonymy.
- (2) In 1766 the name *Grus* was published as an apparently new name by Pallas (*Miscell. Zool.* : 65). The main purpose of Pallas's paper, which was headed "GRUS CREPITANS seu PSOPHIA LINNEI", was to describe a specimen of the species to which in 1758 (: 154) Linnaeus had given the name *Psophia crepitans*. This was the only nominal species which he included in his genus *Grus* and is therefore the type species by monotypy.
- (3) In 1767 (*Spicil. Zool.* 4 : 1) Pallas again used the name *Grus*. This paper was substantially the same as that which he had published a year earlier in the *Miscell. Zool.*, being also concerned with the description of a specimen of the species which in 1758 Linnaeus had named *Psophia crepitans*. In this paper Pallas renamed this species *Grus psophia* (: 1), presumably because, although he was rejecting the word "*Psophia*" as a generic name, he wished to perpetuate in some way the word used by Linnaeus for this species in 1758 and thought that this might conveniently be done by employing it as a specific name in place of the name *crepitans*.
- (4) On some date not now known the Commission adopted *Opinion* 103 (published in 1928 (*Smithson. misc. Coll.* 73 No. 5) : 21—24), in which it placed the generic name *Grus* Pallas, 1767 (*Spicil. Zool.*) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species by absolute tautonymy. In the paper on which this *Opinion* was based no reference was made either to the earlier name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, or to the earlier usage by Pallas himself of the name *Grus* in the *Miscell. Zool.* of 1766. These matters therefore were not considered by the Commission. It was however

aware that the nominal species *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, was not mentioned by Pallas in his 1767 paper and therefore that it was not an originally included species of the genus *Grus*. An attempt was made to get over this difficulty by arguing that in establishing the genus *Grus*, Pallas must have been aware that in 1758 Linnaeus had used the term "Grues" to denote four species (of which one was *Ardea grus*) placed by him in the genus *Ardea* and therefore that it would be reasonable to infer that Pallas looked upon *Ardea grus* Linnaeus as belonging to his (Pallas's) genus *Grus* of 1767. This argument is invalid since the only species which are eligible for selection as the type species of a genus established before 1931 without a designated or indicated type species are the nominal species cited (including nominal species cited in synonymy) by the author of the generic name at the time when that name was first published.

3. The question now to be considered is what action the Commission should take to regularise the situation created by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 103. Broadly speaking, there are two courses open to the Commission, the adoption of either of which would ensure the continued use of the generic name *Grus* in its accustomed sense. First, the Commission could accept the name *Grus* as from Brisson, 1760, the first occasion on which it was validly published, the type species in this case being *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, the species currently accepted as the type species of the genus *Grus*. Second, the Commission could use its Plenary Powers to validate *Grus* as from Pallas, 1766, with the above species as type species by (a) suppressing *Grus* Brisson, 1760, and (b) designating *Ardea grus* Linnaeus as the type species of *Grus* Pallas, so validated. This second course would substantially validate the incorrect Ruling in *Opinion* 103, the only difference being that *Grus* would rank from Pallas's *Miscell. Zool.* of 1766 instead of from that author's *Spicil. Zool.* of 1767. If it were desired to validate this further mistake in *Opinion* 103, it would be necessary for the Commission to suppress *Grus* Pallas, 1766, as well as *Grus* Brisson, 1760, a course which it can hardly be supposed would find any support.

4. In order to test the views of specialists, a note summarising the unfortunate history of this case and setting out the two main alternatives outlined above, was addressed in December 1955 to twenty ornithologists (who on previous occasions had shown themselves interested in nomenclature by furnishing comments), under cover of a letter asking them to state for the information of the Commission which of the foregoing alternatives it was, in their opinion, desirable that the Commission should adopt. Replies have now been received



from fourteen of the specialists consulted. These replies may be classified as follows :—

- (1) *In favour of applying the normal provisions of the “ Règles ”, that is, in favour of accepting “ Grus ” from Brisson, 1760, with “ Ardea grus ” Linnaeus, 1758, as type species (eleven (11) specialists)*<sup>1</sup> :

W. B. Alexander (*Edward Grey Institute of Field Ornithology, Oxford, England*)

Jean Delacour (*Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.*)

G. C. A. Junge (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)

Noël Mayaud (*Faculté des Sciences de Paris*)

Ernst Mayr (*Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*)

Richard Meinertzhagen (*London*)

B. Rensch (*Zoologisches Institut der Westfälischen Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, Westf., Germany*)

Finn Salomonsen (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen*)

Joachim Steinbacher (*Senckenbergische Naturforschende Gesellschaft, Frankfurt a.M., Germany*)

Helmuth Wagner (*Übersee-Museum, Bremen, Germany*)

K. H. Voous (*Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands*)

- (2) *In favour of using the Plenary Powers (a) to validate the name “ Grus ” as from Pallas, 1766, and (b) to designate “ Ardea grus ” Linnaeus, 1758, to be the type species of the foregoing genus (three (3) specialists)*<sup>2</sup>

G. Diesselhorst (*Ornith. Abteilung, Sammlung des Bayerischen Staates, München, Germany*)

Alden H. Miller (*Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.*)

G. Niethammer (*Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Bonn, Germany*)

5. It will be seen from the above particulars that by a large majority (11 to 3) the ornithologists who have advised on this case support the acceptance of the generic name *Grus* as from Brisson, 1760, the first author by whom it was published, and are opposed to the use of the Plenary Powers for the purpose of validating this name as from its later usage by Pallas in 1766.

<sup>1</sup> For the communications received from the eleven specialists here enumerated see paragraph 4 of the present *Direction*.

<sup>2</sup> For the communications received from the three specialists here enumerated see paragraph 5 of the present *Direction*.



6. The present is one of the cases concerning defective entries made in the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by Rulings given in *Opinions* rendered in the pre-1935 (Lisbon) period on which a decision is needed before the volume containing particulars of the entries so far made in the *Official List* can be published. It is accordingly submitted to the Commission for consideration in the light of the views which have been collected from specialists as set out in paragraph 4 above.

7. The Commission is accordingly invited to choose between the following two alternatives :—

(1) ALTERNATIVE "A" : Under this Alternative the normal provisions of the *Règles* would be applied in this case, the oldest available name (*Grus* Brisson, 1760) being adopted for the genus concerned. The Ruling which would result from the adoption by the Commission of this Alternative is shown in Section (1) of the Annexe attached to the present note.

(2) ALTERNATIVE "B" : Under this Alternative the Commission would use its Plenary Powers (a) to suppress the oldest available name (*Grus* Brisson, 1760) for the genus concerned and (b) to designate *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, to be the type species of *Grus* Pallas, 1766, which would then become the oldest available name for the genus in question. The Ruling which would result from the adoption by the Commission of this Alternative is shown in Section (2) of the Annexe attached to the present note.

8. *Supplementary action required* : Under the General Directive issued to the International Commission by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, that in its *Opinions* it is to deal with all names involved in cases submitted to it, the names *Psophia* Linnaeus, 1758, and *crepitans* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Psophia crepitans*, should be placed on the appropriate *Official Lists* and the name *psophia* Pallas, 1767, as published in the combination *Grus psophia* (an invalid *nom. nov.* for *crepitans* Linnaeus, 1758) should be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology*. The required action has already been taken or is in process of being taken as regards the first two of the above names, for the name *Psophia* Linnaeus, 1758, was placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 67, while by a vote recently taken on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(55)31 the Commission has decided to place the name *crepitans* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Psophia crepitans*, on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology*. The decision so taken has been embodied in *Direction* 43, which it is expected will be published at an early date.<sup>3</sup> The only action now called for is therefore the addition of the invalid specific name *psophia* Pallas, 1767, to the *Official Index*.

<sup>3</sup> *Direction* 43 was published on 19th October 1956 (*Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 1(D) : 171—210).

## ANNEXE

**Rulings regarding the generic name "Grus" which would result from the adoption by the International Commission of Alternative "A" and of Alternative "B" respectively**

## Section (1) of Annexe

## ALTERNATIVE "A"

**Draft Ruling applying the normal provisions of the  
"Règles"**

**DRAFT RULING :—**(1) The entry relating to the generic name *Grus* Pallas, 1767 [sic], made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 103 is hereby deleted as being incorrect and the following revised entry is hereby made in its place :—*Grus* Brisson, 1760 (gender : feminine) (type species, by absolute tautonymy : *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758).

(2) The under-mentioned name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—*grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Ardea grus* (specific name of type species of *Grus* Brisson, 1760).

(3) The under-mentioned name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :—*Grus* Pallas, 1766 (a junior homonym of *Grus* Brisson, 1760).

(4) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* :—*psophia* Pallas, 1767, as published in the combination *Grus psophia* (a junior objective synonym of *crepitans* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Psophia crepitans*).

## Section (2) of Annexe

## ALTERNATIVE "B"

**Draft Ruling involving the use of the Plenary Powers to suppress "Grus" Brisson, 1760, to validate "Grus" Pallas, 1766, and to vary the type species of the genus so named**

**DRAFT RULING :—**(1) The following action is hereby taken under the Plenary Powers :—

- (a) The generic name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, is hereby suppressed for the purposes both of the Law of Priority and of the Law of Homonymy.

- (b) All designations and selections of a type species for the genus *Grus* Pallas, 1766, are hereby set aside and the nominal species *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758, is hereby designated to be the type species of the foregoing genus.

(2) The entry relating to the generic name *Grus* Pallas, 1767, [sic], made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 103 is hereby deleted and the following revised entry is hereby made in its place :—*Grus* Pallas, 1766 (gender : feminine) (type species, by designation under the Plenary Powers under (1)(b) above : *Ardea grus* Linnaeus, 1758).

(3) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—*grus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Ardea grus* (specific name of type species of *Grus* Brisson, 1760).

(4) The generic name *Grus* Brisson, 1760, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers under (1)(a) above is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.

(5) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* :—*psophia* Pallas, 1767, as published in the combination *Grus psophia* (a junior objective synonym of *crepitans* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Psophia crepitans*).

## II. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

7. **Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(56)3** : On 25th April 1956 a Voting Paper (V.P.(O.M.)(56)3) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either (1) “ for “*Alternative ‘A’*” as set out in the first part of the Annexe to the paper numbered Z.N.(S.) 558 relating to the generic name *Grus* submitted by the Secretary simultaneously with the present Voting Paper [i.e. in the first part of the Annexe to the paper reproduced in paragraph 6 of the present *Direction*] (proposal that the normal provisions in the *Règles* be applied in this case) ; or (2) for “ *Alternative ‘B’*” as set out in the second part of the

Annexe to the paper numbered Z.N.(S.) 558 relating to the generic name *Grus* referred to above (proposal that the Plenary Powers be used to suppress *Grus* Brisson, 1760, to validate *Grus* Pallas, 1766, and to vary the type species of the latter genus)".

**8. The Prescribed Voting Period :** As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the One-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 25th May, 1956.

**9. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(56)3 :** At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(56)3 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes in favour of the proposal styled "Alternative 'A'" had been received from the following twenty-four (24) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis ; Boschma ; Stoll ; Vokes ; Hering ; Miller ; Prantl ; Bodenheimer ; Cabrera ; Esaki ; Mayr ; do Amaral ; Lemche ; Hankó ; Dymond ; Mertens ; Key ; Jaczewski ; Bonnet ; Hemming ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Riley ; Kühnelt ; Tortonese ;

(b) *Affirmative Votes in favour of the proposal styled "Alternative 'B'" :*

None ;

(c) *On Leave of Absence, one (1) :*

Bradley (J.C.) ;

(d) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.



**10. Declaration of Result of Vote :** On 7th June 1956, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(56)3, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 9 above and declaring that the proposal styled "Alternative 'A'" submitted with the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

**11. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present " Direction " :** On 25th September 1956, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Direction* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(56)3.

**12. Original References :** The following are the Original References for the names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Direction* :—

*Grus* Brisson, 1760, *Ornithologia* 5 : 374—391

*Grus* Pallas, 1766, *Miscell. Zool.* : 65

*grus* (*Ardea*), Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 141

*psophia* (*Grus*), Pallas, 1767, *Spicil. Zool.* 4 : 1

**13. Family-Group-Name Problems :** The family-group-name problem involved in the present case will be dealt with on a later occasion when comprehensive proposals will be submitted to the International Commission in regard to the problems arising in connection with this category of name involved in the Rulings given prior to the end of 1936 in *Opinions* in which the names of genera in the Class Aves were placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

**14.** The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Direction* is accordingly

hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

**15.** The present *Direction* shall be known as *Direction* Fifty-Five (55) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Twenty-Fifth day of September, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Six.

*Secretary to the International Commission  
on Zoological Nomenclature*

**FRANCIS HEMMING**